

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A computer-based method for administering financial instruments, comprising the steps of:

5 establishing a trust with trust units, each unit comprising a bond having a maturity date and one or more shares of a security, where the number of shares is defined as a share ratio and the unit par price is determined based on the values of the underlying bond and the shares of the security at a predetermined time;

periodically computing the price of the trust units based on the share ratio for the period and the current values of the underlying bond and the shares of the security;

10 comparing the computed price of the unit to a predetermined price; and making a distribution to unit holders based on the comparison.

2. The method of claim 1 wherein at least some of the distribution is made of shares of the security.

15 3. The method of claim 1 wherein the step of making a distribution comprises distributing the excess difference between the current price of the unit and the predetermined price.

4. The method of claim 3 further comprising the step of converting the excess difference into an excess number of shares of the security based on the current share price.

20 5. The method of claim 4 further comprising adjusting the share ratio of the trust units to reflect the distributed excess number of shares.

6. The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of reinvesting distributions made to unit holders into new trust units.

25 7. The method of claim 5 further comprising the step of reinvesting distributions made to unit holders into new trust units by combining excess number of distribution shares of the security with a single bond into a trust unit having adjusted share ratio.

30 8. The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of making a final payment on or about the maturity date of the bond, said final payment comprising the face value of the bond, less administrative expenses.

9. A computer software product for implementing the steps of the method of claim 1 on a computer.

10. The computer software product of claim 9 comprising an Excel spreadsheet program.

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11. A computer-based system for administering financial instruments, comprising:  
 means for establishing a trust with trust units, each unit comprising a bond having a maturity date and one or more shares of a security, where the number of shares is defined as a share ratio and the unit par price is determined based on the values of the underlying bond and the shares of the security at a predetermined time;

5 means for periodically computing the price of the trust units based on the share ratio for the period, and the current values of the underlying bond and the shares of the security;  
 means for comparing the computed price of the unit to a predetermined price; and  
 means for making a distribution to unit holders based on the comparison.

10 12. The system of claim 11 further comprising means for computing excess difference between the current price of the unit and the predetermined price and means for converting the excess difference into an excess number of shares of the security based on the current share price.

13. The system of claim 12 further comprising means for adjusting the share ratio of the trust units to reflect the distributed excess number of shares.

15 14. The system of claim 11 further comprising means for reinvesting distributions made to unit holders into new trust units.

20 15. The system of claim 13 further comprising means for reinvesting distributions made to unit holders into new trust units by combining excess number of distribution shares of the security with a single bond into a trust unit having adjusted share ratio.

25 16. A computer-based system for administering financial instruments, comprising:  
 data entry means for communicating clients transaction orders;  
 a database containing entries related to one or more trusts with trust units, each unit comprising a bond having a maturity date and one or more shares of a security, where the number of shares is defined as a share ratio and the unit par price is determined based on the values of the underlying bond and the shares of the security at a predetermined time, said database further storing information about clients and clients' ownership of trust units;

30 means for receiving market information about each trust;  
 a first data processor executing transaction requests by clients related to trust units;  
 and

a second data processor for periodically adjusting the value of trust units of said one or more trusts based on received market information and predetermined value thresholds.

35 17. The system of claim 16 wherein the database is an Access database.

18. The system of claim 16 wherein the data entry means comprises a personal computer.

19. The system of claim 16 wherein the second data processor is programmed to compute excess differences between the current price of a unit and a predetermined threshold.

5 20. The system of claim 21 wherein the second data processor is further programmed to convert excess differences into excess number of shares of the security based on the current share price.

21. The system of claim 20 wherein the second processor is programmed to adjust the share ratio of the trust units to reflect distributed excess number of shares and store into said database an adjusted share ratio for the trust units.

10 22. The system of claim 21 wherein the second processor is programmed to reinvest distributions made to unit holders into new trust units.

23. The system of claim 22 wherein the second processor is programmed to combine excess number of distribution shares of the security with a single bond into a trust unit having adjusted share ratio and store the updated information into said database.

15 24. A computer software product for causing the second processor of claim 23 to perform the required process steps.

SUB P16 25/ A computer-based method for administering financial instruments, comprising the steps of:

20 establishing a trust with trust units, each unit comprising a bond having a maturity date and one or more shares of a security, where the number of shares is defined as a share ratio and the unit par price is determined based on the values of the underlying bond and the shares of the security at a predetermined time;

25 periodically computing the price of the trust units based on the share ratio for the period, and the current values of the underlying bond and the shares of the security;

comparing the computed price of the unit to a predetermined number; and making a distribution to unit holders based on the comparison.

26. The method of claim 25 wherein at least some of the distribution to unit holders is made of shares of the security.

30 27. A computer-based system for processing and supervising customer accounts comprising at least one financial instrument having units, each unit having a par value and comprising a bond asset with known maturity and shares of a single stock, the system comprising:

means for receiving trade orders from system customers, the trade orders identifying the customer account, the financial instrument, the number of units and a characterization of the trade;

a database containing entries related to units of said at least one financial instrument and entries related to the customer accounts;

5 a brokerage account means for executing received customer trade orders when said orders match entries in the database; and

account update means for making, in accordance with a predefined payment formula, periodic payments to the customer accounts based on the current value of the financial instrument unit.

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*sub 28* 28. A computer-based method for reducing the short-term uncertainty in the return of an investment, comprising the steps of:

selecting a security based on expectations for long-term capital appreciation;

15 selecting a long-term bond issue having fixed maturity date and a predetermined face value;

creating a trust having units, each unit comprising one of the selected long-term bonds and a predetermined number of shares of the selected security, said number of shares being defined as a share ratio, the trust being associated with an account administrator having access to information about the created trust and about customers' accounts

20 indicating ownership interest in the trust units;

periodically determining the value of the trust units using current market information about the underlying securities;

25 comparing the determined current value of the trust units to a pre-set value; and distributing excess value payments to said customer accounts based on the difference between the current unit value and the pre-set value.

29. The method of claim 28 wherein the security is selected among large-cap stocks.

30. The method of claim 28 wherein the long-term bond issue is a U.S. Treasury STRIP.

30 31. The method of claim 30 wherein the term for the bond is between 20 and 30 years.

32. The method of claim 28 wherein the period for determining the value of trust units is quarterly.

*sub 33* 33. The method of claim 28 further comprising the step of converting excess difference into an excess number of shares of the security based on the current share price.

34. The method of claim 33 further comprising adjusting the share ratio of the trust units to reflect the distributed excess number of shares.

35. The method of claim 28 further comprising the step of reinvesting distributions made to unit holders into new trust units.

5 36. <sup>SUB AG</sup> The method of claim 35 further comprising the step of reinvesting distributions made to unit holders into new trust units by combining excess number of distribution shares of the security with a single bond into a trust unit having adjusted share ratio.

37. The method of claim 27 wherein at least some of the excess value payment is made of shares of the selected security.

10 38. The method of claim 28 further comprising the step of making a final payment on or about the maturity date of the bond, said final payment comprising the face value of the bond, less administrative expenses.

15 39. <sup>SUB AG</sup> The method of claim 28 wherein the step of creating a trust comprises developing an Excel spreadsheet program with entries corresponding to trust units and customer accounts.

40. The method of claim 39 further comprising storing information about the trust units and the customer accounts in a database accessible by the account administrator.

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